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our cause is bright and encouraging. The gains of the past year in many ways have been remarkable. Peace work is more widely extended and better organized than it has ever before been. Men and women of all classes and ranks of society and organizations of every kind are interesting themselves in it. Practical statesmen and leaders of government have accepted the ideals of the friends of peace as not only reasonable, but also capable of easy realization. Kings and presidents no longer hold aloof, but are in some cases among the foremost protagonists of the war against war. Arbitration has won its case at the bar of international public opinion, and the existence of a recognized international tribunal leaves no longer any excuse for resort to violence in the settlement of controversies. The progress already made, and the hope of greater attainment in the near future should stimulate all the friends of our cause everywhere to devote themselves with new energy and greater ardor to the work still to be accomplished.

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCES.

We are glad to report that though death has been busy in our ranks, taking from us a number of our ablest workers in different parts of the country,—Edward Atkinson, Philip C. Garrett, Mrs. Charles Russell Lowell and others,—and an unusual number of members have for various reasons given up their connection with the Society, our constituency has nevertheless in members, subscribers and contributors, considerably increased over last year. We have now a good list of contributors who annually make gifts to our treasury. The Permanent Peace Fund has yielded several hundred dollars more than last year. Two thousand dollars has been received on the legacy of \$10,000 left us by the late James Callanan of Des Moines, Ia. Two other small legacies have also been recently received.

BUILDING AND ENDOWMENT FUND.

The effort to obtain subscriptions towards a fund for a permanent headquarters and a larger endowment has not been as successful as we had expected. Only about \$23,000, including legacies and pledges, has so far been promised towards the \$100,000 asked for. We hope that in the year still allowed us according to our original plan we shall be able to find larger and more ready response to our appeal than has yet been made. We have created, as the Treasurer's report shows, a special building and endowment fund in which legacies and gifts paid in to the amount of \$2,338 have been placed. We repeat our urgent appeal of last year to all our friends everywhere to aid us with their gifts and legacies in securing this much needed addition to our resources, that we may be able to meet in a more adequate way the growing demands made upon us by the enlarged opportunities everywhere opening before us.

With gratitude to God for his guidance and blessings during the year, we respectfully submit this report.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD,
Secretary.

The International Peace Bureau at Berne, on what it considers official information, gives out that the second Hague Conference will probably be postponed till May, 1907, instead of meeting in the autumn of this year.

The Present International Situation.

Rev. Henry Richard, who understands the Far East better perhaps than any other living man, and is in this country from China to enlist the interest of our government and people in the matter of a pacific federation of the Western nations with China and Japan, thus sums up the present international situation as he sees it:

Since the first Hague Conference the world has moved on with gigantic strides. Some of the greatest in the direction of peace are the following:

1. The demonstration of the utter futility of national armaments, however gigantic, to secure peace, proved by the recent outbreak of war between Russia and Japan. But the lessons of that war have not been applied to world interests yet.

2. The phenomenal growth of arbitration treaties during the last few years shows how ripe the world is for peace measures; but there is no legislative and executive power yet placed behind these awards,—therefore, the lawless is fearless and frequently bullies the weaker nations in various ways.

3. The marvelous rise of the Interparliamentary Union. It is expected to have some thousand representative members from all nations meeting in London in 1907. But more effective coöperation of the rulers and governments of the world is necessary to make it a permanent government for the world.

4. The sudden awakening of a fourth of the human race in China to establish fifteen universities in three years is unprecedented. The strong beginning in the reorganization of their army has again raised the cry of "the yellow peril"; but no rational means has yet been devised to allay the fears of either East or West. Consequently, eight hundred millions in Asia are afraid of the white peril, and six hundred millions of the white race in all continents are afraid of the yellow peril. Fifteen millions of mankind are slaves in constant fear of the world's enormous and largely lawless armaments, longing for another Abraham Lincoln to set the whole world of white, yellow and black slaves free.

5. The creation of the Douma in Russia is another giant stride, far-reaching in its consequences over all lands.

6. But the greatest of all, probably, is that which comes from the Far East, China and Japan, suggesting that the nations shall discard the method of each nation arming itself against the world, as it bankrupts even the richest and does not guarantee peace, and to substitute in place of this colossal evil a method which has never failed to secure peace,—the union of the just and law-abiding against the unjust and lawless. Then we shall have the union of the world against one. By the creation of this world-government, through the federation of about ten of the leading nations, we can at once get universal peace and order. It is for the want of a world-government that there is universal unrest and distrust. This is the challenge thrown down by the non-Christian to the Christian nations.

Since President Roosevelt now commands the respect and confidence of all nations, it is to be hoped that he will prepare the leading nations of both East and West to say: "With charity towards all and malice towards none, let us join in a formal proposal for the beginning

of the federation of the leading nations at the Hague Conference in October next." Will not his best friends advise him to do that? It will be the greatest political boon ever conferred on the human race and will bring infinite relief and blessing to all.

The British Peace Society.

Abstract of the Annual Report of 1905-6.

The Ninetieth Annual Report of the Peace Society, 47 New Broad Street, London, E. C., congratulates the members on the continuing and increasing favor shown to its principles, with special reference to the action of Parliament, the influence of the King and Queen, and the general popular support of Peace. The Scandinavian Secession, the end of the war in the Far East, and the change of national policy are referred to with gratification, the forthcoming Peace Conference at The Hague with hopeful anticipation, the South African and other troubles with regret, and the propaganda of Lord Roberts with repudiation. Detailed mention is made of twenty-five cases of pacific settlement, either completed or in progress, and to twenty-one new treaties of permanent arbitration.

The Society has carried on a very extensive and varied work during the year. Its lecturers and agents have given 725 addresses. In connection with the general election a general work of questioning candidates was incited by the Society, and 50,000 pamphlets and papers were distributed. The observance of Peace Sunday was as general as in previous years: 7,211 sermons and addresses had been reported, and 328,412 copies of literature distributed, or 90,000 more than last year. Peace Sunday was also observed in France, and has spread to Australia, Denmark, and The Netherlands. A branch of the Society has been formed in Melbourne, Australia, and a branch of the Juvenile Society—the Band of Peace—at Dundee. Included in the usual large amount of literature issued (285,000 copies) was an edition of 10,000 copies of Andrew Carnegie's Rectorial Address to the St. Andrews University, for gratuitous distribution. Various provincial meetings and visits of the secretary had been very encouraging. He had also attended the second National Peace Congress in Bristol in June, the Conference of the International Law Association in Christiania in September, and, later, the Universal Peace Congress in Lucerne.

The Report speaks of the courteous assistance of the Press, of the continued usefulness and increasing circulation of the Society's Organs, the *Herald of Peace* and the *Olive Leaf*, and of the revision, increase, and large demand for the Lantern Lectures. It refers to the large deficit in the financial report caused by the increased demand for the Society's efforts, and concludes with a reference to the Christian basis of the Society and its works, which urges that the need for a Christian peace propaganda is growing more imperative and will be still more clamant in the future.

Limiting the Size of Battleships.

Admiral Mahan, who cannot be accused of being a "demagogue of peace," believes that the only remedy for the insensate rivalry of the maritime nations in

building big and bigger battleships, is an international agreement limiting the size of these floating batteries. One of the lessons which this high authority draws from a study of the naval battles in the Japanese-Russian war, is that it is futile to increase the size of battleships with the hope that any nation can get and maintain the biggest. There is, he contends, no natural limit beyond which increase in size can be said to be impossible; and hence if one nation should construct a battleship with a displacement of 30,000 tons, there is nothing to prevent a rival from constructing one of 40,000. By the time one new monster, designed to overmatch the English "Dreadnought," shall be completed, Great Britain or some other nation, starting later, will "go us one better."

Admiral Mahan argues that as the expense of a battleship increases at a ratio in excess of the ratio of increase of tonnage, the nations are embarked in a rivalry that is simply suicidal, when each tries to overmatch the other. He therefore suggests an international agreement limiting the size of battleships.

But if this be practicable as to the size of individual ships, why is it not equally so as to the number of fighting ships—the size of the navy itself? A resolution looking in this direction has recently passed the British House of Commons, with the approval of the government. The need of some such agreement, so far as this country is concerned, was plainly brought out in the recent debate in the House over the naval appropriation bill providing for the expenditure of \$100,000,000. Representative Tawney, chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, told the House and the country that "we are spending 63½ per cent. of all our revenues, exclusive of the postal service, for war or in preparation for war." We have under construction to-day, he said, thirty vessels of all classes, with a displacement of 384,730 tons, or more than 50 per cent. of the displacement of our present navy, and that construction will not be completed until 1910 or 1912. The total amount appropriated for the navy by the Fifty-seventh and Fifty-eighth Congresses, according to Mr. Tawney, was \$338,108,715. What the great marine powers have built or are building, of efficient fighting ships only, these figures, prepared at the office of naval intelligence, show:

GREAT BRITAIN.	
Tons.	Tons.
Built1,673,338	Building234,660
FRANCE.	
Built.....619,675	Building.....181,283
GERMANY.	
Built.....466,084	Building121,978
UNITED STATES.	
Built.....388,519	Building313,278
JAPAN.	
Built.....321,131	Building.....106,740

This peaceful republic, committed for a hundred years to the principle and practice of arbitration, with no foe even suspected, is thus building fighting ships faster even than Great Britain, and will soon occupy third place among the naval powers. We ought at least to be ready to second England's motion for a "limit."—*From the Boston Herald.*